

Word Choice  
in your  
Persuasive Essay

Think about it...

What if Thomas Jefferson had written, "I think that all men are created equal"?

Does it have the same impact as, "All men are created equal"?

When you are writing a persuasive essay, I think that you should not use the phrases: I think, I feel, or I believe. I feel that these phrases make you sound wishy-washy. I believe that your opinion is stronger when you leave them out.

When you are writing a persuasive essay, do not use the phrases: I think, I feel, or I believe. These phrases make you sound wishy-washy. Your opinion is stronger when you leave them out.

# BE CONFIDENT!

kind of      I feel      maybe

sort of      I believe      just

I think      might      pretty




Citing Sources - with your group, brainstorm words to use instead of "said" or "says".

Now brainstorm words to use instead of "according to".

Said

According to

# "Said" Synonyms

 *ZZZZZ* Boring: "I don't want to go," she said.  
 Interesting: "I don't want to go!" she whimpered.

<p><b>agreed</b>                  acknowledged                  assented                  conceded                  concurred                  consented                  seconded</p> <p><b>animal sounds</b>                  barked                  chirped                  croaked                  crowed                  growled                  hissed                  howled                  panted                  roared                  snarled                  squawked                  squeaked                  yapped                  yelped</p> <p><b>answered</b>                  reacted                  remarked                  replied                  responded                  retorted                  returned</p> <p><b>argued</b>                  bickered                  contended                  contested                  contradicted                  countered                  debated                  denied                  disagreed                  disputed</p>	<p>objected                  opposed                  protested                  quarreled                  quibbled                  squabbled</p> <p><b>asked</b>                  challenged                  grilled                  inquired                  interrogated                  pried                  probed                  queried                  questioned                  quizzed                  requested</p> <p><b>begged</b>                  beseeched                  entreated                  implored                  petitioned                  pleaded                  prayed                  pressed                  requested                  urged</p> <p><b>blamed</b>                  accused                  alleged                  attacked                  charged                  claimed                  rebuked                  reproved</p> <p><b>chatted</b>                  babbled                  blabbed</p>	<p>chitchatted                  gabbed                  gibbered                  gossiped                  jabbered                  prattled</p> <p><b>commented</b>                  mentioned                  noted                  opined                  remarked                  stated</p> <p><b>complained</b>                  bemoaned                  bewailed                  fretted                  fussed                  griped                  groaned                  grumbled                  moaned                  pouted                  sniveled                  whimpered                  whined                  yammered</p> <p><b>cried</b>                  bawled                  bemoaned                  bewailed                  blubbered                  grieved                  groaned                  howled                  lamented                  moaned                  mourned</p>	<p>sighed                  sniffled                  sniveled                  sobbed                  wailed                  wept                  whimpered                  yammered                  yowled</p> <p><b>criticized</b>                  blasted                  chastised                  chided                  disapproved                  lambasted                  nitpicked                  reprimanded                  zinged</p> <p><b>declared</b>                  announced                  asserted                  broadcasted                  confirmed                  informed                  proclaimed                  professed</p> <p><b>exaggerated</b>                  boasted                  bragged                  distorted                  elaborated                  embellished                  enhanced                  expanded                  expounded                  fabricated                  inflated</p>	<p>romanticized                  overstated</p> <p><b>explained</b>                  clarified                  described                  detailed                  illustrated                  interpreted                  paraphrased                  summarized                  translated</p> <p><b>gaspd</b>                  choked                  gulped                  heaved                  panted                  snorted                  wheezed</p> <p><b>imitated</b>                  aped                  echoed                  impersonated                  mimicked                  mocked                  parodied                  parroted</p> <p><b>interrupted</b>                  blurted                  inserted                  interfered                  interjected</p> <p><b>intimidated</b>                  badgered                  browbeat                  bullied                  coerced                  harassed                  hounded</p>
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# “Said” Synonyms

<p><b>intimidated</b> <i>(cont'd)</i> taunted threatened</p> <p><b>joked</b> bantered jested jived joshed kidded</p> <p><b>laughed</b> cackled chortled chuckled giggled howled roared snickered sniggered snorted</p> <p><b>nagged</b> badgered hounded needled pestered prodded</p> <p><b>observed</b> detected discerned discovered noted noticed perceived</p> <p><b>ordered</b> charged commanded decreed demanded directed instructed</p>	<p><b>persuaded</b> cajoled coaxed convinced exhorted insisted urged wheedled wooded</p> <p><b>predicted</b> conjectured forecasted foretold guessed inferred presumed prognosticated prophesied speculated supposed surmised</p> <p><b>promised</b> agreed assured ensured guaranteed pledged swore vowed</p> <p><b>raged</b> boiled bristled foamed fumed ranted raved spit stormed</p>	<p><b>rejoiced</b> celebrated cheered exulted hooted jubilated reveled</p> <p><b>remembered</b> brooded recalled recollected reflected reminisced</p> <p><b>retold</b> narrated quoted recited recounted repeated</p> <p><b>revealed</b> announced confessed confided declared disclosed divulged expressed proclaimed professed uttered</p> <p><b>sang</b> chanted chirped crooned hummed serenaded trilled</p>	<p>twittered warbled yodeled</p> <p><b>scolded</b> berated chastened chided criticized lectured rebuked reprimanded reproached</p> <p><b>screamed</b> bawled bellowed blared blurted cried exclaimed hollered roared shouted shrieked shrilled squealed wailed yelled yowled</p> <p><b>stuttered</b> faltered hesitated sputtered stammered stumbled trembled</p> <p><b>suggested</b> advised hinted implied</p>	<p>inferred insinuated intimated offered proposed recommended</p> <p><b>tattled</b> blabbed blurted gossiped leaked rumored snitched spilled squeaked</p> <p><b>teased</b> bugged harassed mocked needled pestered razed ribbed roasted taunted</p> <p><b>warned</b> admonished advised alerted cautioned exhorted forewarned</p> <p><b>whispered</b> breathed buzzed hissed mumbled murmured muttered</p>
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Said

declared

described

observed

noted

pointed out

...



According to

based on

as reported by

as stated in

in agreement

with

with reference

to...

# Transitions



*ZZZZZ* **Boring:** So, dogs make the perfect family pet.

**Interesting:** Without a doubt, dogs make the perfect family pet.

## For the Beginning

A bad	At the beginning	Initially	One important
A good	Before	In the beginning	The first
An important	Early on	In the first place	To begin
As soon as	First	It started when	To start
At first	First of all	One	Yesterday

## For the Middle

A better	Another important	Furthermore	Next
Accordingly	A second	However	Second
Additionally	At the same time	In addition	Secondly
After	A worse	In fact	Shortly thereafter
After that	Before long	In the meantime	Soon after
Afterward	Besides	Later	Suddenly
All at once	During	Later on	Then
All of a sudden	Equally important	Likewise	The next
Along with	Following this	Meanwhile	The second
Also	For example	More importantly	When
Another	For instance	Moreover	While

## For the End

Accordingly	For this reason	Later on	Therefore
A final	Furthermore	Moreover	The worst
After	Hence	Most importantly	Thus
After that	In brief	Obviously	To conclude
All at once	In conclusion	Of course	To summarize
All in all	In fact	On the whole	To sum up
All of a sudden	In other words	Shortly thereafter	To this end
As a result	In short	Since	Ultimately
At last	In summary	Soon after	Undeniably
At the end	In the end	The best	Undoubtedly
Clearly	Last	The final	When
Consequently	Last of all	The last	With this in mind
Eventually	Lastly	The most important	Without a doubt
Finally	Later	Then	Without question